Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A grout for watertight screens, which consists of water, a natural or modified clay, a blast furnace slag having a maximum grain size of between about 50 μm and about 100 μm and a Portland cement as an activating agent, wherein said grout has a cement/water ratio of between 0.1 and 0.25.

2. (Original) The grout according to claim 1, in which the slag has a maximum grain size equal to about 80 μm.

3. (Previously Presented) The grout according to claim 1, in which the slag has a CaO/SiO_2 weight ratio of between 1.10 and 1.35.

4. (Previously Presented) The grout according to claim 1, in which the slag has a chemical modulus of greater than about 500.

5. (Previously Presented) The grout according to claim 1, in which the modified clay is bentonite.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The grout according to claim 1, in which the amount of Portland cement ~~activating agent~~ is about 1% to about 10% by weight with respect to the weight of the blast furnace slag.

8-11 (Canceled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The grout of claim 1, in which the slag has a Blaine specific surface area of about 2,500 to about 4,500 cm^2/g.

14. (Currently Amended) An excavation fluid, which comprises a grout consisting of water, a natural or modified clay, a blast furnace slag having a maximum grain size of between about 50 μm and about 100 μm, and an activating agent, wherein said grout has a cement/water weight ratio between 0.1 and 0.25.

15. (Previously Presented) The excavation fluid of claim 14, in which the slag has a maximum grain size equal to about 80 μm.

16. (Previously Presented) The excavation fluid of claim 14, in which the slag has a CaO/SiO_2 weight ratio of between about 1.10 and about 1.35.

17. (Previously Presented) The excavation fluid of claim 14, in which the slag has a chemical modulus of greater than about 500.

18. (Previously Presented) The excavation fluid of claim 14, in which the slag has a Blaine specific surface area of about 2,500 to about 4,500 cm^2/g.

19. (Previously Presented) The excavation fluid of claim 14, in which the modified clay is bentonite.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The excavation fluid of claim 14, in which the amount of Portland cement ~~activating agent~~ is about 1 % to about 10 % by weight with respect to the weight of the blast furnace slag.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Withdrawn) A method of making a watertight screen which comprises carrying out perforation with a grout consisting of a mixture comprising water, a natural or modified clay, a blast furnace slag having a maximum grain size of between about 50 μm and about 100 μm, and a Portland cement as an activating agent[[.]] ,wherein said grout has a cement/water ratio of between 0.1 and 0.25.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, in which the slag has a maximum grain size equal to about 80 μm.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, in which the slag has a CaO/SiO_2 weight ratio of between about 1.10 and about 1.35.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, in which the slag has a chemical modulus of greater than about 500.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, in which the slag has a Blaine specific surface area of about 2,500 to about 4,500 cm^2/g.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, in which the modified clay is bentonite.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, in which the mixture comprises from about 1% to about 10 % by weight of Portland cement ~~activating agent~~ with respect to the weight of the blast furnace slag.

33. (Cancelled)

34. – 38. (Cancelled)